In the claims:

1. (Original claim) A washer, comprising a body having at least one inner segment arranged to cooperate with a fastener which has a rod with one end connectable toward one side of an object to be tightened or loosened and another end to extend to another side of the object and having at least one thread portion for engagement by a nut, said body being arranged to enhance a cooperation between said at least one inner segment and said another end of the rod underneath said at least one thread portion to create a friction between said at least one inner segment and said another end of the rod, said body having an axis and being provided with a first outer surface located at one axial side and adapted to cooperate with the nut threadingly connected with the rod on said another end, with a second outer surface located at an opposite axial side and adapted to cooperate with the object, and with at least one inner surface adapted to cooperate with said at least one inner segment, so that when a tool is applied and the nut is turned by the tool to overcome a thread friction with the rod, and the rod wants to turn along while a holding force holds said body stationary, said at least one inner segment stops the rod from turning so that any further turning of the nut elongates or relaxes the rod in an axial direction to tighten or loosen the rod by elongating or relaxing the rod.

In the claims:

1. (Original claim) A washer, comprising a body having at least one inner segment arranged to cooperate with a fastener which has a rod with one end connectable toward one side of an object to be tightened or loosened and another end to extend to another side of the object and having at least one thread portion for engagement by a nut, said body being arranged to enhance a cooperation between said at least one inner segment and said another end of the rod underneath said at least one thread portion to create a friction between said at least one inner segment and said another end of the rod, said body having an axis and being provided with a first outer surface located at one axial side and adapted to cooperate with the nut threadingly connected with the rod on said another end, with a second outer surface located at an opposite axial side and adapted to cooperate with the object, and with at least one inner surface adapted to cooperate with said at least one inner segment, so that when a tool is applied and the nut is turned by the tool to overcome a thread friction with the rod, and the rod wants to turn along while a holding force holds said body stationary, said at least one inner segment stops the rod from turning so that any further turning of the nut elongates or relaxes the rod in an axial direction to tighten or loosen the rod by elongating or relaxing the rod.

2. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is replaceable with another inner segment.

3. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is arranged so that it cooperates with a threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut.

4. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is formed so that it cooperates with a non-threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut

5. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is formed as a segment selected from the group consisting of a first segment formed to cooperate with a threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut and a second segment formed to cooperate with a non-threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut, one of said first and second segments being arranged in said body replaceably by another of said first and second segment, and vice versa.

2. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is replaceable with another inner segment.

3. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is arranged so that it cooperates with a threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut.

4. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is formed so that it cooperates with a non-threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut

5. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is formed as a segment selected from the group consisting of a first segment formed to cooperate with a threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut and a second segment formed to cooperate with a non-threaded portion underneath the at least one thread portion for engagement by the nut, one of said first and second segments being arranged in said body replaceably by another of said first and second segment, and vice versa.

6. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said body and said at least one inner segment is formed so that a friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod during installation of the washer on the rod is lower than the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod after the washer is installed on the rod to permit putting the washer on the rod by hand.

7. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment and said body are formed so that the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod during removal of the washer from the rod is smaller than the friction between said at least one inner segment and the rod after the washer is installed on the rod, to permit taking the washer off by hand.

8. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1; and further comprising means for creating the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod , to change a contact between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod.

9. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one movable member extending outwardly beyond a contour of said body with at least one portion of said at least one movable member and arranged so as to bring said at least one

6. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said body and said at least one inner segment is formed so that a friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod during installation of the washer on the rod is lower than the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod after the washer is installed on the rod to permit putting the washer on the rod by hand.

7. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment and said body are formed so that the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod during removal of the washer from the rod is smaller than the friction between said at least one inner segment and the rod after the washer is installed on the rod, to permit taking the washer off by hand.

8. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1; and further comprising means for creating the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod , to change a contact between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod.

9. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one movable member extending outwardly beyond a contour of said body with at least one portion of said at least one movable member and arranged so as to bring said at least one

inner segment in a closer contact with the other end of the rod when said movable member is pushed toward said at least one inner segment.

10. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member is formed so as to decrease the contact between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod when the washer is applied onto or taken off the rod.

11. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member extends over said first outer surface of said body, so that when a nut is turned onto said first outer surface, said at least one movable member is pushed inwardly towards said at least one inner segment.

12. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said body has a side to which the holding force is applied, said at least one movable member being formed so that it extends over said side to which the holding force is applied, so that when the holding force is applied, said at least one movable member is pushed inwards toward said at least one inner segment.

13. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member is formed so that it extends over

inner segment in a closer contact with the other end of the rod when said movable member is pushed toward said at least one inner segment.

10. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member is formed so as to decrease the contact between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod when the washer is applied onto or taken off the rod.

11. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member extends over said first outer surface of said body, so that when a nut is turned onto said first outer surface, said at least one movable member is pushed inwardly towards said at least one inner segment.

12. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said body has a side to which the holding force is applied, said at least one movable member being formed so that it extends over said side to which the holding force is applied, so that when the holding force is applied, said at least one movable member is pushed inwards toward said at least one inner segment.

13. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member is formed so that it extends over

said second outer surface of said body, so that when the nut is turned and presses said body onto the object, said at least one movable member is pushed inwards towards said at least one inner segment.

14. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one spring.

15. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one spring located between said body and said at least one inner segment.

16. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one obstacle in said inner surface of the body and arranged so that said at least one inner segment can not turn freely relative to said inner surface.

17. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that said at least one inner segment can not move freely in the axial direction.

18. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that said means increases the friction as the rod elongates.

said second outer surface of said body, so that when the nut is turned and presses said body onto the object, said at least one movable member is pushed inwards towards said at least one inner segment.

14. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one spring.

15. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one spring located between said body and said at least one inner segment.

16. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes at least one obstacle in said inner surface of the body and arranged so that said at least one inner segment can not turn freely relative to said inner surface.

17. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that said at least one inner segment can not move freely in the axial direction.

18. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that said means increases the friction as the rod elongates.

19. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that said means decreases the friction as the rod relaxes.

20. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes a switch arrangement operative for changing said contact.

21. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes a connecting means between said body and said at least one inner segment and creating the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod.

22. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner surface of said body is shaped as a non-circular surface relative to said axis, so that when said at least one inner segment has a tendency to turn along with the rod said at least one inner segment is wedged between said non-circular surface of said body and the other end of the rod.

23. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner surface is formed as a wedging surface in said axial direction to apply a wedging effect to said at least one inner

19. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that said means decreases the friction as the rod relaxes.

20. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes a switch arrangement operative for changing said contact.

21. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means includes a connecting means between said body and said at least one inner segment and creating the friction between said at least one inner segment and the other end of the rod.

22. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner surface of said body is shaped as a non-circular surface relative to said axis, so that when said at least one inner segment has a tendency to turn along with the rod said at least one inner segment is wedged between said non-circular surface of said body and the other end of the rod.

23. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner surface is formed as a wedging surface in said axial direction to apply a wedging effect to said at least one inner

segment so that when the rod has a tendency to turn in said at least one inner segment and when as a result said at least one inner segment has a tendency to start moving in said axial direction, said at least one inner segment is wedged between said inner surface of said body and the other end of rod.

24. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said inner surface of said body is formed so that it does not permit said at least one inner segment to turn relative to said body.

25. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is spring-loaded to frictionally connect with said inner surface of said body and the other end of the rod.

26. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that it is manually engageable.

27. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that it does not permit said at least one inner segment to turn relative to said body.

segment so that when the rod has a tendency to turn in said at least one inner segment and when as a result said at least one inner segment has a tendency to start moving in said axial direction, said at least one inner segment is wedged between said inner surface of said body and the other end of rod.

24. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said inner surface of said body is formed so that it does not permit said at least one inner segment to turn relative to said body.

25. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one inner segment is spring-loaded to frictionally connect with said inner surface of said body and the other end of the rod.

26. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that it is manually engageable.

27. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that it does not permit said at least one inner segment to turn relative to said body.

28. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that it provides a friction between said means and said at least one inner segment.

29. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said at least one means is formed so that it pushes said at least one inner segment into the other end of the rod to wedge said at least one segment in the other end of the rod.

30. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member is arranged so that it provides a force to said at least one inner segment when pushed towards said at least one inner segment so as to provide the friction to the other end of the rod while the object is tightened or loosened and to release the friction to the other end of the rod when the nut is loose and said at least one movable member extends outwardly beyond the contour of said body again so that said body can be taken off by hand.

31. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said body has a surface to which the holding force is applicable by a tool which also applies a turning force to the nut.

28. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said means is formed so that it provides a friction between said means and said at least one inner segment.

29. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 8, wherein said at least one means is formed so that it pushes said at least one inner segment into the other end of the rod to wedge said at least one segment in the other end of the rod.

30. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 9, wherein said at least one movable member is arranged so that it provides a force to said at least one inner segment when pushed towards said at least one inner segment so as to provide the friction to the other end of the rod while the object is tightened or loosened and to release the friction to the other end of the rod when the nut is loose and said at least one movable member extends outwardly beyond the contour of said body again so that said body can be taken off by hand.

31. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said body has a surface to which the holding force is applicable by a tool which also applies a turning force to the nut.

32. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said second outer surface of said body is frictionally enhanced.

33. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said first outer surface of said body is frictionally reduced.

Claims 34-165 cancelled.

32. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said second outer surface of said body is frictionally enhanced.

33. (Previously presented) A washer as defined in claim 1, wherein said first outer surface of said body is frictionally reduced.

Claims 34-165 cancelled.